

## Department Update

2015 brought some new faces to our department, as well as seeing some senior officers receive much deserved promotions. Officer Ivan Kosty and Officer Richard Houser were both hired in 2015 and both previously worked as Officers for the Philadelphia Police Department. Ivan completed his Bachelor's degree through Tiffin University. From 2003-2015 he was a police officer in Philadelphia's 15th district where he was a member of the tactical 5 squad for the majority of his tenure. Richard earned his Bachelor's degree from Penn State University before being hired by Philadelphia PD in 2010.

Officer Jon Bleuit was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in June of last year. Jon has served Whitpain Township as an officer for 20 years and has been a part of many specialized units during his service.

Detective Sergeant William Armstrong was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in June of last year. William

has served the township for 28 years in the capacity of a patrolman, traffic safety officer and Detective Sergeant.

Deputy Chief Ken Lawson was appointed Chief of Police by the Board of Supervisors in May 2015. As a direct result of his commitment to the community and the department, Lawson climbed through the ranks, moving from patrol officer to sergeant, patrol lieutenant, deputy chief, and now Chief of Police. As Chief, Lawson plans to continue to serve Whitpain Township and work with the men and women of the department to ensure a policing model that includes forward thinking, a community policing approach, and high ethical standards.



Chief Ken Lawson



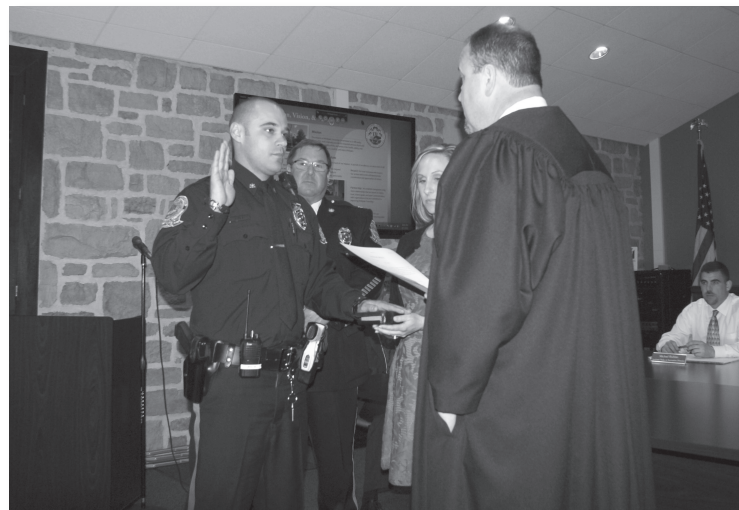
Sgt. Jon Bleuit, wife Jackie and daughter Delaney



Lt. Bill Armstrong and girlfriend Linda



Ofc. Richard Houser and wife Noel



Ofc. Ivan Kosty and wife Laura

# Whitpain

## WPA

### Police Association 2016

#### WHITPAIN POLICE ASSOCIATION

##### Members 2016

##### Association Officers

Sgt. Jon Bleuit, President

Ofc. Steve Nickel, Vice President

Sgt. Anthony Cianci, Treasurer

Ofc. Fran Rippert, Secretary

Lt. William Armstrong,

Financial Secretary

##### Active Members

Chief Kenneth Lawson

Lt. Jeff Franck

Sgt. Cathy Penecale

Sgt. Jay Pratt

Ofc. Georgette Hill

Det. Sgt. Joseph Fenerty

Sgt. Joseph Billetta

Ofc. Scott Buchanan

Ofc. Brian Wilfong

Det. Thomas Wittig

Det. Bradly Potter

Ofc. George Frost

Ofc. Christopher Rotondo

Ofc. Brian Richard

Ofc. Brian Sweisfurth

Ofc. Mike McGuire

Ofc. Brian Daly

Ofc. Seth Homan

Ofc. Shaun Beitler

Ofc. William Becker

Ofc. Frank Franco

Ofc. Matt Bealer

Ofc. Jonathan Gallagher

Ofc. Ivan Kosty

##### Retired Members

John Blake

David O'Brien

Joseph Stemple

Wayne Straub

Anthony Lepore

Thomas Medwid

Harvey Foster

Michael Adgie

Mark Smith

## Whitpain Police Association

### 2016

## Social Media



The Whitpain Township Police Department is proud to introduce our new Facebook page! Social media provides a unique platform to both interact with the community and share important information regarding current events in the township. This platform will allow us to share real time information to keep the community safe and informed. It will also be a valuable asset and opportunity for the community to contribute to our safety by being our eyes and ears on the street. By sharing valuable information with the public regarding recent crimes, suspect descriptions, vehicle descriptions, major events, etc. the police department hopes to foster this relationship with our community and continue to make Whitpain Township an extremely safe and desirable place to live and work. We encourage everyone to **"Like"** our new Facebook page so that you can follow us and stay informed on the latest township news. Along with the serious side of daily events, we will also be sharing the lighter side and featuring many of our social events and officers interacting with the community. We hope to show you a side of the police department that the public does not often get to see, by featuring some of our officers and sharing some of the humor that takes place even in a professional environment such as ours. So please visit our page and help **share** in the ongoing effort to keep this community safe.



The Whitpain Police Association is also excited to announce our new website, [www.whitpainpoliceassociation.org](http://www.whitpainpoliceassociation.org). This site provides information regarding upcoming events, as well as pictures from previous events and a digital copy of our newsletter. The site also provides registration forms for events such as the annual WPA car show and golf outing and also easy options to make donations through credit card or PayPal.



### Welcome to Whitpain Police Association

The Whitpain Police Association, established in 1997, takes tremendous pride in the dedication of its members and their service to the people of Whitpain Township. The Whitpain Police Association is dedicated to advocating the enhancement of pay and benefits for its members, the men and women of the Whitpain Police Department.



Home Mission Statement Events Photos Newsletter Blog Contact Registration Forms Donations

Visit our web site at [www.whitpainpoliceassociation.org](http://www.whitpainpoliceassociation.org)





## Permanent Drug Box

Whitpain Township Police Department has received a permanent Med-Return Drug Collection Unit. This is a secure box that has been installed in the police department lobby. This box will allow anyone to dispose of unwanted drugs at their convenience. There are certain restrictions as to what can be placed in the return box, so please look over this list and then get rid of your unwanted drugs.

### ITEMS ACCEPTED IN THE MED RETURN BOX

Prescription Medications  
Prescription Patches  
Prescription Ointments  
Over the Counter Medications  
Vitamins/Samples  
Medications for Pets

### ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED IN THE MED RETURN BOX

NO Needles  
Hydrogen Peroxide  
Inhalers • Aerosol Cans  
Medications from Businesses or Clinics  
Ointments • Lotions  
Liquids • Thermometers

## Whitpain Police Association

### 12th annual Car Show

**"Cruise at the College"**  
**Montgomery County Community College**  
**Route 202 & Morris Road,**  
**Blue Bell, PA 19422**  
(Morris Road Entrance)

**Saturday September 17th 2016**  
3PM until 7PM – Registration begins at 1PM  
Rain Date Sunday September 18th 2016

**PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR FULL FLYER & REGISTRATION FORM**

[www.whitpainpoliceassociation.org](http://www.whitpainpoliceassociation.org)



## The Paper Shredder Event



The annual document shredding event was a great success yet again. The truck was filled and the sides were bulging. This event will return to Stony Creek Sports Park located at 500 North Wales Road in Blue Bell. On Saturday May 7th the Whitpain Police Association will be hosting their annual paper shredding event for residents of Whitpain Township. It will be begin at 9:00 am and will conclude at 1:00 pm or until the truck is filled.

Rapid Recycling, Inc will set up their on-site shredding truck and Whitpain Police Association members will be available to assist you with getting your sensitive documents shredded. Rapid Recycling, Inc is a bonded vendor that conforms to all HIPAA and GLB standards on the handling and processing of confidential documents for destruction. The on-site truck is only capable of shredding paperwork. Please bring any documents that you would like destroyed and make sure that they are free from rubber bands, binders, or anything else that could impede the shredding process.

## Awards

Since or last publications, several Whitpain Police officers have been recognized for outstanding service in different areas of responsibility.

Officer Rippert conducted a traffic stop of two suspicious males. Through great investigation, Rippert was able to seize a gun, a mask and gloves from the vehicle. The two males were later determined to be suspects in multiple armed robberies throughout Montgomery and Bucks County.

Officers Wittig, Armstrong, Daly, Bleuit, Wilfong and Bealer all contributed to the investigation of a violent home invasion in the township. The actors in this case targeted an Asian business owner and his family. The result of the case sent several actors to State prison for a long time.

Officers Bleuit, Homan and Becker were crucial in assisting the Department of Homeland Security in the tracking of an airplane carrying a very large amount of narcotics into Montgomery County. The officers were able to stop the suspects and recover the large quantity of narcotics that were bound for distribution in the immediate area.

Officers McGuire, Beitler, Daly, Becker and Gallagher assisted the Montgomery Township Police Department in stopping and detaining the driver of a dump truck that had just robbed a local bank. The officers conducted a felony car stop on the large truck on a very busy stretch of road. The officers kept the public safe during this arrest and no one was injured.

Below: Officers Frost and Sweisfurth receiving the Meritorious Service Commendation. Along with Officers from Plymouth Township PD, Officers Frost and Sweisfurth responded to a call for an armed subject with a knife. The subject had injured himself with the knife and then charged at Officers, who were able to subdue the subject without anyone sustaining serious injury.



## Beware of Scams!

Don't let yourself become a victim! Recently the police department has seen a rise in several types of known phone scams. The perpetrators often target the elderly and use several different methods to try and get the victim to send money to them via MoneyGram, wire transfer, etc. One of these methods involves the suspect calling and portraying himself as law enforcement and telling the victim that their child or grandchild is in jail and that they must send money to them for the child to be released. Another method which is very common around tax season, is that the suspect will call and advise that he is with the IRS and tell the victim that they owe large sums of money. The caller then tells them to send a few thousand dollars now to satisfy their debt. Neither law enforcement nor the IRS would ever call your house and ask for money! There are some warning signs to be aware of so you can pick out the scams. The phone number the person is calling from is usually an area code you do not recognize because it is not local and the person will often have an accent, as these scams are often attempted by persons out of the country.

### Steps to follow if you receive a phone call like this:

- DO NOT give any of your personal information!
- Hang up the phone immediately. If they left you a voice message, do not return the call.
- If you did not provide any of your information and you did not suffer any financial loss from a scam, you do not have to file a report but you can notify the police department for documentation purposes and you can also report it to the below agencies.
- If your personal information has been compromised and/or you did suffer a financial loss as a result, you should file a police report and also report the scam to the links listed below.
- IRS impersonation scam – report to the Treasury Inspector General Tax Administration (TIGTA) @ [www.treasury.gov/tigta/contact\\_report\\_scam.shtml](http://www.treasury.gov/tigta/contact_report_scam.shtml)
- Victims should also report to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) via their online complaint form @ [www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov](http://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov) and also email to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov) (subject: "IRS phone scam")

**For additional information go to:**  
**[www.irs.gov/uac/report-phishing](http://www.irs.gov/uac/report-phishing)**

## 2016 Golf Outing

The Whitpain Police Association is glad to announce the return of our annual golf outing which will be held on Monday, June 13, 2016 at the Meadowlands Country Club. Along with our efforts in raising money for previous charities and our retired officers, we have decided to donate a portion of the proceeds to the Whitpain Township Parks and Recreation. This will benefit the Stony Creek Day Camp Scholarship Fund. Registration can be completed on line at **[www.whitpainrec.com](http://www.whitpainrec.com)**. Click on Activities and then WPA Golf Classic. Registration and sponsorship forms will be mailed to you.

